



'Durg-maharshi'
Pramod Maruti Mande

'Durg-maharshi' Late Pramod Maruti Mande was one of the most renowned researchers of history, freedom fighters, Indian forts and amongst other topics. He was an impressive orator and an author. He travelled around the country for more than 35 years and studied Indian forts, palaces and historical monuments. After his sad demise, two of his disciples converted his notes and photographs into this magnificent book.

A monumental book containing information about 4000 forts, palaces, fortresses, remnants of ancient forts, fortifications, fortified cities, inns, castles, citadels, watch towers etc. in India....

This book contains :-

- * India's glorious heritage from ancient times.
- * Information about the forts given in more than 43 ancient texts like *Vedas*, *Manusmriti*, *Purana*, *Ramayana*, *Mahabharata*, *Arth-Shastra*, *Mansollas*, *Vastu-shastra*, *Aadnya-Patra* etc.
- * About 4088 forts in 26 States, 6 Union Territories and 521 Districts in India.
- * 1282 color photographs and 33 maps.
- * Latitude, Longitude and Altitude of the forts.
- * Geographical description of India with all the states.
- * Distance from the district headquarters to the fort.
- * A brief description about the fort.
- * Famous places near the fort and district.

* Presence of forts on all four sides in India :-

To the East - Bhismaknagar (District - Lower Dibang Valley, Arunachal Pradesh)

To the West - Basta (District - Kachchh, Gujarat)

To the South - Vattakottai (District - Kanyakumari, Tamilnadu)

To the North - Zorawar Singh Fort (Ladakh)

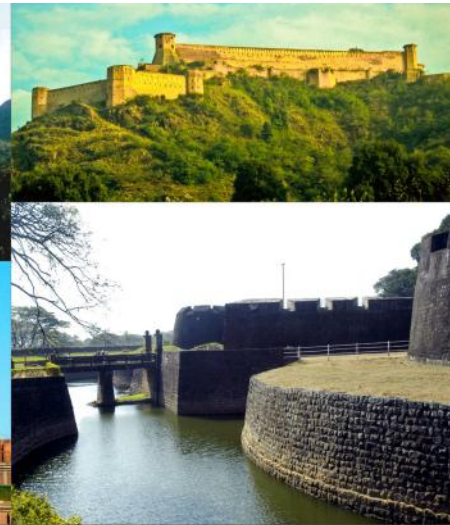
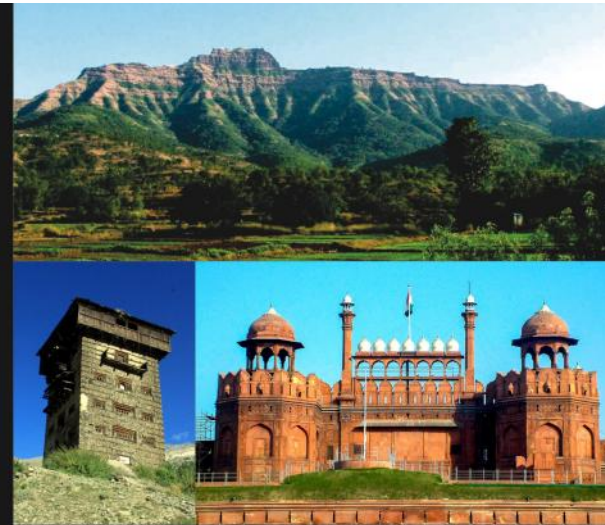
A comprehensive and informative book covering about 4000 forts in India.

This book is one of its kind, wherein for the first-time forts and palaces across India are listed in a single book.



FORTS & PALACES IN INDIA

Author : Pramod Maruti Mande



FORTS & PALACES IN INDIA

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF

4000+

FORTS & PALACES ACROSS INDIA



'Durg-maharshi'
Pramod Maruti Mande



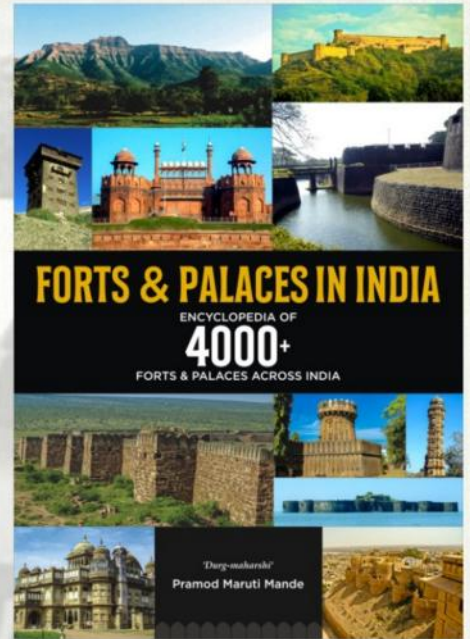
FORTS & PALACES IN INDIA

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF 4000 + FORTS & PALACES ACROSS INDIA

Author

'Durg-maharshi'

Pramod Maruti Mande



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Forts and Palaces in India

Encyclopedia of
4000+
Forts and Palaces across India

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Encyclopedia of 4000+ Forts and Palaces across India

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about the forts from the website
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This book is dedicated to

"Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj"

The famous Indian warrior king and a member of the Bhonsle Maratha clan.

He won, constructed and repaired more than 300 forts.

He was born on a fort,
he spent his whole life in administration of forts,
and even breathed his last on a fort.

SPECIALLY THANKS TO :

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PREFACE

'Durga-maharshi' Pramod Maruti Mande was an excellent orator, a great thinker, an ardent patriot and a philosopher in Maharashtra, eager to acquire knowledge of various subjects and an inspiration to many youth. He always followed the principle of 'simple living and high thinking'. His thoughts gave the right direction to many young people like me. All of us used to respectfully address him as "*Bhau*" (means 'big brother'). He was my motivation and inspiration. (A brief introduction about him is given on the last page of the book so as to introduce readers to his work.)

Mr. Pramod Mande alias "*Bhau*" traveled across India for almost 35 years in search of forts and historical structures. In the year 2007, he wrote the Marathi book '*Gad kille Maharashtra*' (Forts in Maharashtra) encompassing around 391 forts in Maharashtra state. The book covers brief information, photos and maps of 391 forts in Maharashtra. Mande sir and I worked day and night for around 3 years in my office to complete this book. After that, he continued to visit various forts in India.

However, on 17th October 2017 at 11:15 am, Pramod Mande passed away tragically because of irremediable cancer. But this time, he did not write his travelogues as usual. With a brilliant intellect till the end, Mande sir was very well conversant with each and every district of India that he visited. He was well aware of the roads, the geographical conditions and the forts there. But he did not write down the information on the forts. During his last days, he started noting down few facts of some forts, but those were sketchy. Names of such forts were mentioned but their exact location was not clear or their existence as of today was not confirmed. Such forts also find a mention in this book as per his notes, however since some forts were never found, we have noted "NOT FOUND" against them.

Mande Sir was diagnosed with cancer in the first week of August 2017. Thereafter, he experienced severe weight loss. But even in this condition, he had frank conversations on history and other subjects with everyone who visited. The discussions would become so lively, that the person speaking to him would forget about Mande Sir's severe illness. Mande sir would get distraught at the thought that the desire to search other forts in India and pen a book on them will now remain incomplete. At that time I made a firm decision that 'I will fulfill this last wish of my Mentor (*guru*) who is like my father'. After I lost my father in 2004 and subsequently my mother in 2007, the responsibility of the family was completely on my shoulders. In this situation, Mande Sir continued to inspire me like a beacon. It was only because of the awareness of this inspiration, that I was able to complete this great book. Meanwhile, many controversies were created by close people during the work on this book and many hurdles cropped up. However, by completing this book, I wanted to show to the world "**the contribution of Pramod Mande to the Forts in India**".

* Mande Sir's Starting Work (Notes) –

The short notes on the forts of India written by Mande sir were handed to me by him while he was still alive. The information contained therein is as follows:

INITIAL FORT LIST PREPARED BY 'Durg-Maharshi' PRAMOD MANDE		
DISTRICT / AREA	FORTS LISTED WITH SHORT CO ORDINATES	FORTS LISTED WITHOUT ANY INFORMATION
UTTAR PRADESH		
Delhi	Adilabad Fort, Tughlabad fort, Siri fort, Ray Pithora Killa, Lal kot, Bijaymandal Fort, Purana killa, Lal killa, Salimgarh	- -
Agra	Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Jagner, Pinhat, Puranakilla, Kachaura, Jitpur	Mirhakur, Malpura, Kagaraul, Achnera, Shamshabad, Fatehabad Sarai (Dara)
Aligarh	Virpura, Tappal, Atrauli, Aligarh, Chharra, Gabhana, Iqlasgarh	- -
Allahabad	Alahabad, Chak Azari Garhwa, Shankargarh, Sinapurkala	Deoriya, Shivrajpur, Arail, Pakava
Auraiya	Bhareh, Salaiya (Phaphund), Ajitmal sarai, Bhaisol Palace	Aruraiya 2 Sarai, Bidhuna, Bela, Bhaisol palace
Banda	Bhuragarh, Basahari, Hajipur, Kalinjar	Augasi, Baberu, Tindwara
Bijnor	Pathargarh, Mandawar, Afzalgarh, Dhampur Sarai, Sherkot Sarai, Sahaspur Sarai, Sahanpur	Bijnor, Nagina
Bulandshahr	Unchgaon, Aurangabad chandakh, chhatari, Malagarh, Bulandshahr, Jahangirabad, Shikarpur, Ahmadgarh, Dibai, Anupshahr, Kuchesar	- -
Chandauli	Dhanpur, Hetampur, Dhus khas, Siyad Raja, Alinagar, Baburi, Chakia	- -
Chitrakut	Bargarh, Lauri	Lukhri, Bhaunari, Kalyanpur, Rasin,
Etah	Awargarh, Umargarh, Jalesar, Arabgarh, Vijaypur	Atranji, Bilsar, Kadirgajn, Nidhauli, Etah, Sakit, Bilram, Patiali, Aliganj, Sarai Aghat
Etwah	Malajani	Parbatner, Etawah, Kudrakot
Faizabad	Ayodhya Shri Lakshman killa	Raunahi, Shahganj
Farrukhabad	Muhammadabad	Shamsabad, Farrukhabad, Khudaganj Sara
Fatehpur	Ghazipur, Asothar, Khajuha sarai+platform, Sarai Jahanabad	Jahanabad, Hatgaon, Khaga, Muthaur, Asni, Ayah, Garhi
Hapud	Garhi Bilbcha	- -
Hardoi	Bilgram	Hardoi, Bawan, Subhashlala ki kothi, Barwan, Madhoganj (Ruichadurg), Mallanwan, Tandiwan, Gopamau, Pinhani, Nir, Saromangar, Mansurnagar
Jalaun	Jagammanpur, Rampura, Jalaun, Konch (Citadel), Khaksis, Nandigaon, Madhogarh, Umri, Bardh, (Kankan Kheda), Teehar	Bahadurpur sarai, Bhadekh, Mau, Orai, Kalpi,
Jaunpur	- -	Shahi killa, Katahit, Newarhia, Machhlisahar, Madiyahu, Badlapur, Zafarabad, Klrakaf, Chandwak
Jhansi	Rudrasagar, Bagroni Jagir, Mawai, Tori Fatehpur, Shahjahanpur, Samthar, Erich, Moth, Amargarh, Gurusarai, Bijaygarh, (Bansar Fort) Pachwara, Rajipur, Barwa sagar, Jhansi, Kurencha, Garval, Badagaon	Moti Katra, Mau Ranipur, Thakurpur, Garha
Kannauj	Raja Jaichand Fort	- -
Kanpur Dehat	Lhwaja Phul, Chapar Ghata Fort	Derapur, Rasulabad, Ghatampur
Kanpur Nagar	Bithur	Shivrajpur
Kaushambi	Kaushmbi, Kara	- -

DISTRICT / AREA	FORTS LISTED WITH SHORT CO ORDINATES	FORTS LISTED WITHOUT ANY INFORMATION
Lucknow	Bijli Pasi Killa	Hulaskheda
Mahamaya-nagar Hatras	Sasni, Hatras, Mursan, Sahpau, Jalali, Tocchigarh	--
Mahoba	Jaitpur, Sungra, Kulpahara, Supa, Charkhari, Shrinagar, Mahoba, Bijjanagar, Mudhari, Rewai Garhi	--
Mainpuri	Kurawali, Akbarpur, Mainpuri	Karimganj, Bhongaon
Mathura	Naujhidbangar, Chhatari, Mat, Raya, Sonkh, Aring, Kosi kalan, Sarai Azamgad, Kans killa, Abdullahpur	Mahaban Mud Fort
Meerut	Bahsuma	Abdullahpur, Ajrara, Parichhatgad
Mirzapur	Chunar, Vindhyachalam, Ahraura, Lalitpur, Sukrit, Sakteshgad, Chatsing	Bhagwat, Bijaygad
Muzaffar nagar	Chhapur – Purana Killa, Basera, Morna Shukrtal, Welhena, Jansatgarhi, Khatauli Sarai, Shoron, Budhana, Jalalabad	Kakrauligarhi
Rampur	Shahbad, Rampur, Kemri, Seifni, Bilaspur	Sainath Khera
Saharanpur	Lakhnauti, Gangoh, Sarswa, Deobardh, Faizabad	--
Sonbhadra	Vijaygad, Aghori Khas	--
Unnao	Badrka, Satankot	Daundi Khera, Panhan, Jhalatar, Sikandarur Saros, Raukarna, Rasulabad, Kursat, Neotini, Mhan, Mawai, Nawabganj, Unnao
Varanasi	Ramnagar, Chetsing killa, Gangapur, Pindra, Jalhupur, Chandravati	--
MADHYA PRADESH		
Ashoknagar	Malhargarh, Kachnar, Isagarh, Chanderi, Achalgarh, Amanchar	Bahadurpur
Balaghat	Lanji	Hatta
Bandhavgarh	Chandia garhi, Bandhavgarh	--
Barwani	Sendhwa, Bhawargarh, Jalgaon	--
Betul	khedla, Bhanwargarh, Asirgarh, Bhaisandehi, Sheragarh	Betul Bazaar, Saoligarh, Dudhia
Bhind	Gohad, Adhupura, Guhisar, Wjhawal, Bhind, Machehand, Dirolipur, Ratva	--
Bhopal	Islamnagar, Bhopalgarh	--
Chhatarpur	Bada Malhera, Gulganj, Ghuara, Bijawar, Khonp, Kishnagarh, Raghauli, Mau sahaniya, Rajnagar, Rajgarh, Lugasi, kashipur	Kishnagarh fort, Satai
Chindwara	Devgarh	--
Damoh	Tejgarh, Singorgarh, Narsinggarh- 1, Narsinggarh- 2, Hatta, Mariyado, Brilanda, Ramnagar, Botrai, Panchamnagar	Damyanti damoh
Datia	Datia, Ramsagar, Baroni, Indragarh, Seondha, (Sherda) (Kanhergarh)	--
Dhar	Mandu, Songarh, Bag, Amjhera, Dhar, Manpur (saray talab)	Kushki, Manawar
Burhanpur	Asirgarh, Burhanpur	Badi
Harda	Makrai, Sangva, Charwa, Jogu khurd	--

DISTRICT / AREA	FORTS LISTED WITH SHORT CO ORDINATES	FORTS LISTED WITHOUT ANY INFORMATION
Hoshangabad	Hoshangabad, Chamardal	Seoni Malwa, Bagra
Indor	Kushalgarh, Utediya, Kajiligarh,	Jamkhurd, Kalmergarhi, Manpur, Mhaw
Jabalpur	Madan Mahal	--
Katni	Vijayraghogarh, Amarapur, Ramgara, Kanwara	--
Mandla	Ramnagar, Mandla	--
Mandsaur	Garh Mohalla, Basai, Sitamau, Laduna, Hinglajgarh	Mandsaur, Avara Garotu, Indragarh
Morena	Sabalgarh, Jaora, Panadgarh, Mundrawa, Sumaoli, Sirlpur, Arroda, Padhawali, Nurabad, Jakhauda, Madhogarh, Sagoriya	Shahpur
Nimach	Pipli, Amada, Jiran, Ratangarh, Bawal	Athana, Jawad, Rampur, Nimach
Panna	Maheba, Ajaygarh	--
Raisen	Raisen	--
Rajgarh	Rajgarh, Khilichpur, Bhojpur Garhi, Biaora, Narsinggarh, Kotra kalan, Vijaygarh, Raghunathgarh, Patan Kalan	Biqora Mandu
Ratlam	Amleta fort	--
Rewa	Govindgarh, Rewa, Ganeo, Nai-Gadhi	--
Sagar	Pithoriya, Sagar, Garhpahara, Nariyavali, Rahatgarh, Khurai, Khimlasa, Malthon, Barodiya, Jaysingnagar, Bilhera, Deori, Gaurjhamav, Rehli, Garhakota, Shahgarh, Hirapur, Baritha, Binaika, Sanodha, Dhamoni, Kanjiya, Bamori Khandera, Atta Karnelgarh	--
Safna pahadiya	Nagod, Sohawal, Madhogarh, Uchahara, Maihar	--
Sehore	Ginnorgarh	--
Shahadol	Garhi sohaqpur	--
Sidhi	Churhat	--
Tikamgarh	Badagaon, Baldevgarh, Tikamgarh, Samarra, Jatara, Prithvipur, Ladhawra, Palera, Khajari, Pacher Ugad, Chhidra, Purenaya, Tigora, Baqhei, Kharagpur, Mohangarh, Chandrapur, Orchha, Garh Khundhar	--
Ujjain	Tarana, Nawar Garhi	Indokh, Mandawal fort
West Nimar (Khargon)	Maheshwar, Mandleshwar, Dhadgoaon Garhi, Mardana, Bhikangoan, Khargon, Barwah, Jalalabad	chainpur, Ramgarh, Gangon
Vildisha	Pathari, Udaypur, Nurpur Garhi, Baqred, Gyaspur, Hydargarh, Mohammadgarh, Bomeri Khandera	--
Sheopur	Sudhara, Dohar, Nayagaon, Kelor	--
Shivpuri	Loharchha, Banjori kalan, Rajarh, Bara, Gojigarh, Pichor, Karera, Ganj digara, surwaya, Akhjhiri, Pohri, Aher Banpur, Narwar Udqavan, Bhagor, Parkhen	Dhoriya, Bamur Kalan
Gwalior	Gwalior, Barai, Panniar, Himmatgarh, Sitagarhi, Bhltarwar, Paiwaya, Pichor, Bhageh, Salwai, Ratangarh, Mastura, Lohagarh, Deogarh, Behat, Palayachha, Laxmangarh, Keda Bhitarwar, Deogarh, Aron, Kishorgarh, Chinnor, Dhawan, Ajaypur, Pehasari, Jogipura, Kaith, Beragarh, Anantpath, Antri, Nihona, Sukhlahori, Dhamnika, Badera bujurg, simariya, Rangawan, Ratangarh, Sankhini, Geydol, Birkheda, Gohind, Gijaurra, Kumhara, Rahuli, Badori, Gurri, Semari Gadhi, Chanderiya, Adupurajagir, Utila, Bandoli,	Baraj Kalan

DISTRICT / AREA	FORTS LISTED WITH SHORT CO ORDINATES	FORTS LISTED WITHOUT ANY INFORMATION
Guna	Phatehgarh, Bajranggarh, Bamori, Barkheri, Maksudangarh, Chachaura, Raghogarh, Aron, Mirpur	Miana
Baran	Koela, Ramgarh, Bhagwargarh, Kelwara, Jankpur, Chainpur, Shahbad, Nahargarh, Jhalwara, Chabra, Gugar, Shergarh, Baran, Kotra Khanderay, Kasba Thana, Palaita	Baran
RAJASTHAN		
Kota	Kota Palace, Darra, Gainta, Parli Itawa, Pipaldu, Phusod, Khatoli	--
Ajmer	Taragad, Pushkar, Banwal, Bagasuri, Mandovari, Ridh, Kharwa, Khatoli, Karkedi, Chosla, Akabar ka kila, Santhana, Masunda, Binoy Bhinai Garh, Nandawara, Nandawara-2, sapla, Sawar, Meharukalan, Sarwar, Phatehgad, Borada, Hingonia jawahar, Junia, Kerot, Goyla, Peesangaon, chosla,	--
Alwar	Baldevgad, Bhangad, Ajabgad, Pratapgad, Thanagazi, Tehala, Kakwadi, Nilkantha, Bader, Beejaware, Malkheda, Dhamaret, Palwa, Alwar, Rajgad, Lachmangad, Govindgad, Ramgad, Tijara, Kirangad, Tatarpur, Bansur, Hajipur, Binjara, Malawali, Malawali khore, Jakhara, Mandavar, Nimrana, Karsauli, Sawairam, Jhaltara, Jatwara, Hasanpura, Bhanokhar	--
Jhalawar	Gagaron, Garh Palace, Jhalapatan, Manohar thana, Gangdhar, Chachawadni, Banswara Palace, Garhi Castle	Talawada
Barmer	Siwana	Badmer
Bharatpur	Hathodi, Vallabhgarh, Khankhera, Vijaygad, Weir, Lohagarh, Kumher, Deeg, Sewar	--
Bikaner	Junagarh, Gajner	Jangloo
Bundi	Hindoli, Bundi, Narsingpura, Roteda, Balwan, Arniya	--
Chittorgarh	Bassl, Chittorgarh, Begun, Badi sadri	Kapasin
Pratapgarh	Mungana, Devgarh, Pratapggarh, Lalgarh/Arnaud	--
Bhilwara	Aatun, Gadarmal, Dhanop thikana, Raipur, Banera, Mandla, Pansal, Bhunasa, Meja, Mahendragarh, Bhagwanpura, Gyangarh, Badnor, Daulatgarh, Shahapur, Jahajpur, Badiyal, Singoli, Bijoliya, Nimbahara, Keriya, Dabla, Shakargad, Dhandola, Khamora, Devil Sanwanthgad, Hamirgad, Jalindri	--
Churu	Kusumalgad, Charu, Jasalsar, Raigad, Taranagar, Jhariya	Ratangarh
Dausa	Thekda, Ramgad, Geejgad, Khonchpuri, Tadchidi, Baharwanda, Rashidpur, Abhaydurg-Saipur, Aluda, Didwana, Bari	--
Dholpur	Bari, Shergad, Old fort, Machakhund,	--
Dungarpur	Benkora, Dungarpur	--
Ganganagar	Auppur	--
Hanumangarh	Bhatner, Hanumangarh	--
Jaipur	Shahapur, Jamwa ramgad, Gonar, Jobnar, Bhaislana, Naraina, Mehar-1, Mehar-2, Raithal, Manpura, Arhrol, Karnsar, Baghwas, Mundiagad, Maid, Navarangpur, Dhola, Harmanda, Mundota, Baskho, Raghunathgad, Nahargad, Jaigad, Amer, Naila, Kanota, Madhogad, Nidar, Bagru, Chomu, Morija, Samod, Saiwad, Raipur-jagir, Manpura-madheri	--

DISTRICT / AREA	FORTS LISTED WITH SHORT CO ORDINATES	FORTS LISTED WITHOUT ANY INFORMATION
Jaisalmer	Jaisalmer sonar killa, Mohangarh, Devikota, Phatehgarh, Kishangarh, Hadda, Khamba,	Pokharan, Tanot
Jalor	Jalor	--
Jhunjhunu	Ponkh, Dundhload, Mukundgarh, Badalgarh, Bhopalgarh, Aruka, Hirawa, Binji, chanana, Pilani, Surajgarh, Malsisar, Bagor, Bissau, Tain, Mandva	--
Jodhpur	Mehrangarh, Manora, Jhalamand, Bilaspur, Jalpali, Bhopalgarh, Asop	--
Karauli	Sapotra, Ramathra, Amargarh, Futa kote, Mandrayal, Sahar, Gothara, Mangrul, Timangarh, Surodh, Shankarpur, Ghat Bhandari-pali, Toda Bhim, Khedi mereda, Todi kohra, padampura, Tudavali, Doravali, Gudhachandraji, Shankarpura, Gadoli, Silpura, Motiyapur	--
Nagaur	Jaolo merana, Kitalsar, Jhalara, Bidiyad, Kuchaman, Maroth, Pachawara, Rodu, Nagaur, Harsolav Gothan, Merta, Chandavatanasawari, Ladnun,	--
Pali	Raipur, Nimaj, Ghanerao, Desuri, Nadol, Awa, Bali, Sojat, Sojat parkota, Kurki, Chandawal, Jaitawant,	--
Rajsamand	Devgad, Devgad Kothdiya Chak, Kumbhalgad	--
Sawai Madhopur	Siwar, Gangapur, Fort choli, Naraoli, Ramgarh bahra, Deogarh Utgir, Ranthambhor, Khandar, Isarda, Baler, Nahargoel Palace	--
Sikar	Reengus, Surera, Ramgad, Danta, Ruggad, Khandela, Losal, Raghunathgad, Khandelaground Fort, Chokri, Thoi, Sirohi, Tanwar fort, Ajitgad, Mandhoroli, Laxmangarh, Singarwat, Phatehpur	Ramgad
Sirohi	Sirohi	--
Tonk	Deval, Dooni Kalyankung, Nagar, Diggigad, Tordi, Anwa, Deoligaon, Rajmahal, Todarajsing, Banetha Tal, Pachewar, Uniara	--
Udaypur	Bedla, Alsgarh	--
KARNATAKA		
Bangalore Rural	Devanhalli, Hoskote, Ramanagram, Chhanapatan, Kankpura, Sawandurg, Kempegauda fort, Jalamangala, Bairavadurg, Siddar beta	--
Bangalore Urban	Bangalore Fort	Anekal
Bagalkot	Chiknal, Haalsiddeshwara, Kategari, Dammara, Teradal, Kelur, Guledgudda, Badami, Belur, Amingarh	Nandavadgi, Vakandurg, Ketur, Kutkaner, Bagalkot, Anantgiri
Belgavi	Chikkaladinni, Kakti, Raigoli garhi, Machigad, Yellurgad, vallabhgad, Shrirshingi, Mamdapur, Hooli, Anantpur, Yamkanmandi, Belgavi, Nandgad, Kittur, Gokak, Murgod, Sampagaon, Bali hongal, Manoli, Torgal, Kafkol, Mudkavi, Ramdurg, Saundatti, Parasgad, Dodvad, Shitolefort, Ghodagiri, Bedkihall, Nipani, Subapur, Sompur	Bhomgad, Turimari, Bedikihal (chikodi) Belavadi, Pachapur
Bellary	Jarmali, Virandurg, Huvvinahadagalli, Ramdurg, Sandur, Hampi/kamlapur, Kampli, Kurugodu, Bellary, Tekkalkote, Siruguppa, Kenchgar, Nandivi, Hale Kota, Hospet ruines, Kumar Ramankote, Palayyana kote, Jodikalu	--

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Bidar	Matala, Basavakalyan, Bhatambre, Bhalki, Bidar	--
Bijapur	Halsangi, Bijapur Muddebihal	--
Chamrajnagar	Chamrajnagar	--
Chikmagalur	Sakharapatan	Ballarayandurg, Devara Hohalli, Gopala, Inam Dattatraya Pitha, Mundra, Hariharapur, Narsimhrajapur, Belehonor, Chikmagalur, Kadur, Ajampur
Chitradurg	Molakalmuru, Dodderi, Chitradurg, Aimangala, Hosdurga, Shrirampur, Chandravali, Jankal, Gadga	--
Davangere	Uchchangidurg, Harpanhalli, Kardidurga, Honnali, Channagiri, Anaji, Jaglur, unknown fort-Jungli fort, B durga	Mayakonda
Dakshina Kannada	Ballarayandurg, Jamalbad, Ullal, Vittal, Belthangady, Bellare, Mudabidri fort	Mangalore- Sultan bathery, Belthangady, Bellare
Dharwad	Dharwad, Hebballi, Navalgund, Kusugal, Mishrikot, Chhabi	--
Gadag	Shrimantgad, Yelavati, Gaudageri, Kuntoji, Nargund, Gajendragad, Naregal, Dambal, Mundargi, Shirhatti	--
Gulbarga Yadgir	Kalburgi Galbarga, Malkheda, Sedam, Shahpur, Vandurg, (Chenurkhalsa) Shorpur, Wagingere 2 forts, Yadgir, Firozabad	--
Hassan	Manjrabad, Bhovanhalli, Garudangiri, Doddakunche, Banavar, Arsikere, Haranhalli, Channarayapatan, Hole narsipur, Hali mysore,	Jinanathpur, Malekal, Kondaji, Arakere, Maharajundurg, (Bahadurgad fort), Mosale
Haveri	Havanur, Shakhar, Savnur, Hangal, Bankapur, Rattihalli, Masur, Airani, Sanqur	--
Kodgu	--	Dhanugala, Garagandur, Madikeri, Bhagmandala
Kolar	Kalvarda, Rahmanghar, Bagepalli, Gudibanda, Nandi, Sidlagatta, Ambajidurg, Kolar, Budikote, Narsapur (Nandagadi) Shetehalli, Mulbagal, Chik balapur fort (Channagiri), Angondahalli, Avani	Paparajanahalli, sithi
Koppal	Anequdi, Bahadurbanda, Wakandurg, Hanamsagar, Irakalgar, Irakalgad, Koppal, Hosabandi Harlapur, Kankgeri, Ramana kote, Kammatadurgam, Hemagadu	Kodatgiri
Mandya	Narayandurg, Kikkeri, Hosaholalu, Melukote, Nagmangla, Maddur, Malavalli, Shrirangapattana	Kabbaldurg
Mysore	Biligirirangana betta, Piriypatan	Alambadi, Husnur, Heqqadadevankote
Raichur	Raudkunda, Raichur, Devdurg, Manvi, Hire kotankal, Mudwal, Mudgal, Jaldurg, Maliabad	--
Shimoga	Kavaledurg, Udri, Chandragutti, Togarshi, Udgani, Shikarpur, Avluhalli, Anandpuram, Shivappanayak lote Nagar, shimoga	Govardhangiri, Madagadakere? Masur?, Avluhalli
Tumkur	Channarayandurg, Bhas mangi, Elusutinakote, Devnarayandurg, Holawanhalli, Koratgere, Nidugal, Madhugiri, Hutridurga, Hullyurdurga, Pavagada, Sira	Bangarnayakanbeta, Chiknayakanhalli, Muganayakan kote, Hebbur, Siddapur
Udupi	Hosangadi, Kaup, Udayavara, Varanga, Kundapur, Bhuikot, Barkur/Basrur, Malpe Darya bahadurgad, Tipu sultan fort Gangoli	Kallinpur, Surala
Uttara Kannada	--	Mankidurg, Mundgod, Shivshankar fort, Tadri, Kondli, Karmgad, Holekote, Samvargad, Anjdiv, Haliyal, Sadashivgad, Ankola, Mirjan, Honavar, Siddapur, Bilgi, Bhimgad, Dhanugala, Gargandur, Madikeri, Bhagmandala

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TAMILNADU		
Cuddalore	- -	Sendamangalam, Cuddalore, Parangipettai, Bhuvangiri, Palaiyamkottai,
Coimbatore	- -	Garudan kottai, Kottur, Annr, Coimbatore, Singanallur, Marchinaichenpalayam, Anamalai, Kaniyur
Dhamapuri	- -	Ankusgiri, Anchettidurgam, Balakondarayan, Melagiri, Gagangiri, Hude durgam, Kaveri Patanam, Kundani, Nilagiriduramu, Ratnagiri, Thattakkaldurgam (Velampatti), Virbhadradurgam, Kottaimalai, Bagalur, Hosur, Kelamanglam, Denkanikota, Sulagiri, Veppanapalli, Uddanapalli, Krishangiri, Maharajagadai, Raykottai, Jagdevipalaiyam, Kaveri pattanam, Kambainellur, Singarpettai, Pennagaram, Perumbalai, Tenkarai kottai, Tali
Dindigul	- -	Kulasekharan kottai, Tottian kottai, Kannivadi, Idaiyan Kottai, Puliyamarathu Kottai, Puliyamarathu Kottai, Veda sandur, Virupakshi, Ayakudi, Palani, Dindigul, Nilakkottai, Vettalagunda
Erode	- -	Danayakkottai, Gazzalhathi, Guttiyalathur Kuttalathur, Talamalai, Andiyur, Bhavani, Dharmapuram
Kanchipuram	- -	Chengalpattu
Kanniyakumari	- -	Vattakottai
Karur	- -	- -
Madurai	- -	Kottampatti, Melur, Sholavara, Tiruvadayur, Madurai
Nagapattinam Thiruvavarur	- -	Tarangambadi (Naga), Karikal (Pondicheri) Nagapattinam (Naga), Mahadevapattanam (thiruvavarur)
Namakkal	- -	Tiruchengodu, Namakkal
Nilgiri	- -	Konakarai, Kalhatti, Nelakotta, Nelliylam, Devala, Kengri, Hulikal
Perambalur Ariyalur	- -	Porpanaikottai, Thiruvarangulam, Adanakottai, Narta Malai, Pudukottai, Tirumalayam, Kilnilaikottai
Ramathpuram	- -	Rajasingmanagalam, Kamudi, Bogalur, Ramnathpuram, Pamban
Salem	- -	Samballi, Mechheri, Nagavalli, Omalur, Salem, Sankagiri, Attur, tammampatti,
		Hanumantguddi, Kollankudi, Kottaiyur, Nemam, Tirukkalakottai (cave fort) Piranmalai, Kalaiyar Kovil
Teni	- -	Gantamanyakkanur, Kambarn
Thanjavur	- -	Thanjavur, Duttukottai, Manora, Vallam
Vellore	- -	Vellore, Sajra, Gojra, Arcot
Virudunagar	- -	Kottaiyur, Rajapalaiyam, Vembakkottai, Aruppukottai
Viluppuram & Pondicherry	- -	Perumukkal, Gingee, Tindirvanam, Tirukovilur, ulundurpettai, Tiyyagai durgam, Kallakurichhi, Shankar Puram, Pondicherry
ANDHRA PRADESH		
Chittor	Guramkonda, Thativirapalle	Kalkada, Chandragiri, Shri Kalahasti
Cuddapah	- -	Uruturu, Alavadapadu, Korapadu, Kothakonda, Narsapuram, Peddasettipalle, Gadhikate, Settivaripalle, Porumamilla, Peddapasupula, Gandikote, Pedanadluru, Duvvuru, Mudireddipalle, Badvel, Naqasanipalle, Chilamakuru, uppaluru, uruturu, Animala, Pendimari, Pulivendla, vemula, siddavattam, yappivala, Nulivedu, E rraguntlakota
Nellore	- -	Udaygiri, Anamasamudrampeta, Nellore, Rapur, renkatagiri
Kurnool	- -	Pedda thambalam, kosiqi, Adoni, Pattikonda, Madikere, chippigiri, Kodumuru, Pyapali, Uppalapadu, Koilkuntla, Nossam, Betamcherla, Nandyal, Moravalconda
Shri Kakulam	- -	Mandasa

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Vishakhapatnam	- -	Sruggvarapukota, Bhimunipatnam, Chodavgram, Narsipatanam
Vizianagaram	- -	Bobbili, Chipurupalle, Vizianagaram
Prakasham	- -	Adanki, Ongole Kondulcur
East Godavari	- -	Rajmundri, Dowlaiswaram, Pithapuram, Kandrakote
West Godavari	- -	Kamavarpukota, Duvva, Mogalturu
Guntur	- -	Aqniqundala, Kethavaram, Dacheppalle, Durgi, Bellamkonda, Remidicherla, Kondavidu Bapatla, Repalle, Nizampatanam
Krishna	- -	Gudur, Kondavidu, Nuzvid, Gollapalle, Shri Kakulam, Challapalle (palace)
Anantpur	Budgavi, Cheyyedu, Halukuru, Havaligi, Ratnagiri, Siddheswaranadurg, udripkonda, Vidupanakal, Manesqmudram, Dandindhirehalu, Rayadurg, Kalyandurg, Kuderu, Tadimarri, Kambadur, Madakasira, Siddheshwarnadurg, Kalyandurg, Kuntimaddi, Pamdurti, Malayanuru, Kundurpi, Gudibanda, Swargiri Mandalahalli, Madakasira, Roddam, Penukonda, Gutturu, Puttuparti, Kodikonda, Maluguru, Macheri, Kodur	Bestharapalle, Budhiqumma fort, Bukkapatanam, Eradikere, Kanekal, Karikere, Konganpalle, Kothakota, Rallahalli, Thumala, Katagulla, Mulkaledu, Gooty, Bukkarasamudram, Anantpur, Ellanuru, Sanapa, Mutssukote, Nagasamudram Tulupula, Gandalpenta, Nallacheruvu, Kokanti,
JHARKHAND		
Latehar	Satbarva, Palamau Old, Palmau New, Ranka Kalan	- -
Jharkhand	Palamaw	- -
Garhwa	Ranka Kalan	- -
UTTARAKHAND		
Haridwar	Laundhaura, Manqlaur, Jawalapur, Haridwar	- -
BIHAR		
Katihar	- -	Khagariya, Kishanganj, Barijagad, Benugad
Jahanabad	- -	Arwal
Jamui	Khaira	- -
Kaimur	Bhagwantpur, Chainpur	- -
Aurangabad	Dev fort, Daudnagar, Umga (madanpur)	- -
Gaya	Tikari	- -
Bhojpur	Bihya, Jagdishpur, Garhani, Belaur	- -
Munger	Munger, Muzafferpur	- -
Nalnda	Bihar, Rajgir, Girik, Ghosrawan	Nalanda
Gopalganj	Hatwa, Husepur	- -
Rohtas	Shergarh, Rohtasgarh, Garh Nokha	- -
TELANGANA		
Mahbubnagar	Koil konda, Ganapuram, Veldanda, Pangal, Gadwal, Alampur, Kolhapur	Narva
Medak	Medak	- -

DISTRICT / AREA	FORTS LISTED WITH SHORT CO ORDINATES	FORTS LISTED WITHOUT ANY INFORMATION
Nizamabad	Balkonda, Bodhan, Nizamabad, Kaulas, Bibipet	- -
Warangal	Warangad, Zafargad	- -
Khammam	Khammam, Kalluru	Nugar
Karimnagar	Pratapgiri, Ramgiri, Molangur, Kothakonda, Kortala, Jagtiyal, Elgandal, Jammikuntha	Bijigar sharif, Bejjanki,
Nalgonda	Anantgiri, Nandi konda, Rachakonda, Kolanpak, Phuvangiri/Bhongir, Nalgonda, Devarkonda, Vijaypuri, Durjapali	Urlugonda, Vedapalle
Adilabad	Nirmal, Son, Utnur, Sirpur	- -
Ranga reddy	- -	Govalkonda
GOA		
Goa	Kholgad, Betul, Old Marmgoa, Marmogoa, Chandor, Estevao, Chapora, Sundi Fort, Alorna Pedne, Nanus, Reis magos, Aguada	- -
HARIYANA		
Hariyana	Kotla, Firojpur, Indore, Sohana	- -

Initially, I had notes of around 1600 forts with me. There were a lot of variations in their spellings. Due to incomplete details available on their latitude and longitude, it was difficult to identify the fort's exact location. The information on forts, the structures on them and their history were not written by them. However, whatever details were available, I first got them typed. During this, Mande Sir passed away due to deteriorating health. Then I took on the task on priority. Lakhs of photographs taken by Mande Sir during his visits across the country were on his home computer. But I did not get an access to them till the end. I got hold of some photographs from his old hard disc and CD but they were insufficient. Mande Sir used to organize photo exhibitions of forts in India across various places in Maharashtra. Some selected photographs for the same were already available on my computer. They proved to be of great help in putting this book together. And thus, based on the scant notes, Chetan Ghadge and I were all set to face the challenge ahead of us. **Just like one doesn't need to remember to take a "breath" or having "food" becomes a need of the body, I got used to working on this book.** The thought of this book was incessantly in my mind, day in and day out. Initially, the four of us Shri. Suresh Jadhav, Shri. Anant Phatak, Shri. Chetan Ghadge and myself decided to work on this book. Of these, people senior by age such as Shri. Suresh Jadhav and Shri. Anant Phatak, have completed many a treks with Mande Sir. After completing some work on this book, Shri. Anant Phatak had to take a backseat owing to his illness and Shri. Suresh Jadhav also quit because of other reasons. So this responsibility now fell on Shri. Chetan Ghadge and me. Shri. Chetan Ghadge, my contemporary and one of Mande sir's student family, was overwhelmed by his thoughts. He participated in this because, for some years, Mande Sir had been on the lookout for unexplored forts in India. For the same, he was searching if in addition to different books, is there any information available on Google Maps? During this, Chetan gave Mande Sir technical information about Wikimapia, Google Earth site etc. Because of his information, Mande Sir's work was simplified. Mande Sir was discovering forts using the latest technology. Since I know of this, after the death of Mande sir, it was Shri. Chetan Ghadge naturally participated on his own in the development of this book. He unearthed hundreds of forts which were either reported as "Not Found" or whose details were unavailable on Google, by burning the midnight oil. For this, he reviewed each and every district and village of India. If there were records of the presence of a fort in a village or the name of a fort was available but it was not to be found in any way, such a list would be handed over to Chetan by me and Chetan would persevere till he found the remains of such forts. I used to jokingly say "Is there a sensor for detecting forts in Chetan's eyes". Nevertheless, it is needed to be reminded many times to complete the work assigned by me to him.

It was *Bhau's* (Shri. Pramod Mande's) dream to come out with a book dedicated to Forts in India and Chetan Ghadge and I were possessed by that dream. What all did both of us do in the last two years while managing our work and families? (Independent memoirs can be written on these) We faced infinite hurdles, encountered difficult times, and unwanted arguments from close friend circle. But all these strengthened my resolve and desire to complete this book as soon as possible.

Since Mande Sir had personally visited more than 1500 forts in India, he was well aware of their many unique characteristics. He often spoke on them. It was his wish to provide photos and information in the book based on these unique characteristics. Example - Photos of fort bastions, gates, fortifications, bastions/trenches, water ponds and various types of structures were to be included in the book as an Appendix. However, I am sad, that because of the tragic demise of Mande sir, as well as unavailability of the photos on his home computer, such unique photos could not be included in this book.

"*Bhau*", we dreamt your dream of book on Forts in India and you are the one who got it fulfilled from us. While doing this work, we always felt that you were sitting near us, so during this period, while no one was able to see you, we were meeting you daily.

This book will encompass **4088 forts** across India, from Jammu and Kashmir to Tamil Nadu and from Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh. In this book, you will come across **4088 forts in 521 districts across 26 states and 6 union territories**. Apart from this, you will also find **33 maps** and **1282 colored photographs**. Information on forts and palaces built by different dynasties, kings, nobles of India as well as the structures in them, their brief history and places to visit around them will be known to you through this single book.

In India the words 'castle' and 'fortress' are not commonly used. All old fortifications are referred to as forts. Today, however, historians draw a clear distinction between 'forts', 'castles' and 'fortresses'. A fort is a comparatively small military structure closed on each side and housing a limited number of inhabitants, usually a military garrison. A castle or palace, however, is a fortified residence of a feudal lord and his subjects. The fairly widespread term 'fortress' most often implies a strong permanent closed fortification occupying a large area, which may include a town. Sometimes the word 'fortress' is used for any formidable fortification, but a fortress considerably surpasses a fort in size. (*Indian Castles 1206–1526. Konstantin S Nossor. Page No. 8*)

In addition to this, the book also covers some of the following diverse fortified areas. In particular, the Mughals and some of the northern kingdoms built fortified **Inn** or **sarāī** on land for lodging traders and travelers from their regions. Therefore, issues relating to their night accommodation were resolved and the traders were safe from thieves and robbers. Apart from this, forts were built on hills to protect the trade routes through these hills. So trade routes were protected and monitored. These forts were also used for taking refuge during difficult times. In the event of war, it was easy to attack from the top of the fort onto the enemy below. Therefore, the importance of these **hill forts** was huge. On some such key hills where large flat land was not available for construction of forts, but because of its geographical location, a **watch tower** would be constructed only for observation. At these places, one or two water tanks or some nominal construction can be seen. Also fort construction can be seen around some temples in India. Since it was the main temple in that reign, a fortified wall was built around it with a point of protecting the deity and the temple. The nature of the temple gradually increased over time and the identity of the fort around it began to diminish. Many such forts are spread all over India. The book will identify and introduce readers to various such forts.

In fact, my subject of study was Maratha Navy. I was writing a book on it. Apart from this, fort - fortresses was also a topic which was close to my heart. Pramod Mande Sir had organized 'Incredible Forts in India' a photo exhibition of forts in India at Balagandharva Kaladalan, Pune on Monday, October 14, 2013 where I delivered a lecture for the first time in my life. The topic of my lecture was, "Forts and Fortresses and their

Authors". It was only because of Mande Sir's motivation that I was able to deliver this lecture. In my talk, I provided an overview of books from ancient times to today that contained descriptions of forts, and the descriptions they provided. Later on, I was fascinated by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's naval campaign at **Basrur** in present-day Karnataka state. And while studying that campaign, I turned to the topic of '**Maratha Navy**'. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's campaign in Basrur is very important because it was "an armed campaign led by the king himself, in adverse conditions, when there were enemies from all sides." Shivaji Maharaj is known as the "**Father of Indian Navy**" because of his vision to look at the navy from a security standpoint. While taking in this extraordinary information about navy, I was lured by the work of a senior history researcher from Goa Dr. Pandurang Sakharam Pisurlekar. Dr. Pisurlekar faced a lot of hardships in life and began to work on an honorary basis in the Portuguese Archives Department for history research. Thereafter, seeing his loyalty and perseverance in his work, the Portuguese government appointed him the director of that office. He served in this post for 31 years, from 1930 to 1961. He wrote more than 128 books and articles. He collected rare manuscripts, maps, microfilms, texts from many places around the world, and before his death donated an entire treasure trove of more than 4000 materials to the University for young students to study. On July 10, 1969 Dr. Pisurlekar succumbed to cancer in Goa. Late Shri. Pramod Mande sir also had a similar journey all his life and eventually died of cancer. I was highly impressed by these two personalities. So I decided to do something for them. I was already working on Mande sir's book. In addition, Dr. Pandurang Sakharam Pisurlekar's 125th birth anniversary (May 30th) and 50th death anniversary (July 10th) were coming up in the year 2019, so I released a book dedicated to him "**Dr. Pandurang Pisurlekar Commemoration Book**" on his 125th birth anniversary that is on 30th May 2019. Thus, I paid homage to this mentor (Dr. Pisurlekar) whom I never got a chance to meet.

* The contents and the structure of this book -

The chapter on Ancient History of Fortification after Preface, describes the ancient history of the forts. It contains information about the major dynasties in India from the century B.C. which ruled here, erected forts and undertook large-scale repair work from time to time.

In addition, some of the world's ancient fortifications are touched upon briefly in this chapter.

Thereafter, a brief description of the ancient fortifications in India is provided. These include information on ancient forts of Mohenjo-daro, Harappa, Kalibangan, Lothal, Surkotada, Banawali, Rajgir, Pataliputra, Varanasi etc.

Also, information about the forts mentioned in ancient texts, importance of the forts, types of forts, their structure, description, etc. has been given. In that *Ved*, *Manu-smriti*, *Purana*, *Jataka*, *Ramayana*, *Mahabharata*, *Arth-Shastra* by Kautilya, *Shukra-niti* of Shukracharya, *Upanishada*, *Mansollas* or *Abhilashitarth Chintamani*, *Niti-vakya-amrita*, *Yukti-kalpataru*, *Brihaspati-smriti*, *Vishnu-smriti*, *Mansara*, *Shiv-tatva-ratnakara*, *Samarangana Sutradhara*, *Vastu-shastra* by Vishwakarma, *Narada Shilpa-shastra*, *Brihat Samhita* by Varah Mihir, *Akash-bhairav-kalp* and *Devadnya-vilas* by Lala Laxmidhara, *Aadnya-Patra* order by Chhatrapati Shivaji and written by Ramchandrapant Amatya, *Raj-vyavhar-kosh* by Raghunath Hanmante, *Parṇāla-parvata-grahaṇākhyānāma* by Jairam Pinde, *Budha-Bhushanam* by Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, *Apastamba Dharmasutra*, *Mayamata*, *Jaya-pruccha*, *Aparajita-pruccha*, *Nitisara* by Kamandaki, *Rajniti Ratnakara*, *Vastu-Vidya* by Dwijendranath Shukla etc. information about forts from more than 43 such books has been included.

The types of forts and their various constituents are then given. E.g. Fortification wall / rampart, inner fort, outer fort, ditch / moat, gate / door, bastions, water tank, royal palace etc.

In the part relating to conservation of forts - why is conservation of forts important ? This has been elaborated / described.

Further, a **map** of each state has been provided at the beginning of the chapter on that particular state in the book. It covers the district and its headquarters. Then on the back of the map are given details pertaining to the geography, political status and historical information of that state. **Colored photos** of forts from my collection have also been shared. A **district-wise alphabetical list** of forts of the state is given after that.

The column under '**Fort Name**' lists the name of each fort, its local name / alternate name.

In the columns of **Latitude**, **Longitude** and **Altitude**, the details of the forts' Latitude, Longitude and Altitude (height above sea level) have been captured.

The location column gives the distance and direction of the fort from the district headquarters. Some districts have different names and their headquarters are also different. Therefore, the name of the district has been mentioned on the upper bar while distance of the fort under the column head '**Location**' mentions the name of the headquarters.

'**Short Information**' column covers the status of the fort, the structure on top, its ruins, the history of the fort and places worth visiting near the fort. In addition, depending on the availability of space, in the Short Information column of a fort, prominent places to be visited in that district find a mention. That is to say, this book covers important historical, cultural and religious places in India along with information on forts.

After completing this list of forts, I am realized that it was not possible for people to see, know and study all the forts. Can we classify these 4000 forts into some hierarchy such as very important, important, generally worth visiting and others? This thought crossed our mind. So, I am decided to mark a star in front of such forts at the beginning of the Short Information column. Accordingly, such forts are given "****" (**three stars**) if they are of historical importance and their structures are worth seeing. Then, important forts have been given "***" (**two stars**). Forts with intact bastions and structures are given a "*" (**one star**) and the rest of the forts are included in the general category. We have given this classification only by observing the condition of the fort using Google Maps and its historical significance. There may be a mistake in the same. These stars have been provided and this classification has only been created so as to aid the reader and help them to quickly identify the most important, important and generally observable forts.

I could not find forts in Meghalaya, Mizoram states and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and Lakshadweep. All the remaining States and Union Territories have been captured in this book.

After completing the work of the book, some forts were found; they are placed under the heading '**Newly Found Forts**'. Such forts were found in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and are given at the end of that state.

At the place where the information of the fort is written, if a photo of the fort, it is necessary to mention it. Some curious readers pointed it out to me so this work had to be done. However this work had to be given 1 month.

In spite of the fact that this book includes 4000 forts, I would like to mention here clearly that all these forts have not been seen by Mande Sir or our co-author. Although it is not possible to know the exact number of forts visited by Mande Sir but he has approximately visited more than 1,800 forts. Most of the photographs in this book have been clicked by Mande Sir, while some photos by me and some photos taken by Shri. Rahul Papal.

We do not claim that this book covers all the forts in India. It may be possible that in this book containing 4000 forts, the locations of some of the forts may be incorrect, some of the forts may have been mentioned twice or some of them might have been recorded incorrectly, there may be some changes in information. Also many

small and big forts and palaces which are currently not included in this book can be included. I think there may be more than 5000 forts and palaces in India. **If readers and experts point out some such changes and additional forts, then those changes can be incorporated in the next edition of this book.** So that this Encyclopedia of Forts will be complete in true sense, and the combined information about Forts and the illustrious history of India will be revealed to the world.

Another important aspect, this book is not intended to increase numbers. **This book was only created to underline the historical importance of a diverse India.**

When we were working on this book, many people asked us why we are making this in English? Make it in Marathi so that maximum number of people (from Maharashtra) can read it. When you see the book you will realize that, the history of the forts or other information (for reading) is not too much. Whatever information is there is mentioned in simple language and which can be easily understood. Initially, in the 'Short Information' column we were intending to give very brief information, but as per the instructions of some of our friends we included a small write-up of some of the main forts. However, searching for this information and verifying its truth took up a lot of time. So it took some time to complete this book and the number of pages also increased. Since this book was on Forts in India, I was insistent right from the beginning that it should be in a language which can be read across India. Hindi as a language is also read in India on a large scale, but in southern India, only local language is read extensively. If the importance of our forts, India's glorious tradition and this book were to have a worldwide reach, it was inevitable for the book to be in English language.

While I had firmly decided that the book should be in English language, it was only my problem as I had only working knowledge of English language. First of all, right from the beginning I was afraid of English. So I kept awake for several nights to first drive away this fear of the language. Finally, 'Google' which is dear to everyone, came to my rescue. With the help of the 'Google Translate' application I learned a little bit about translation work.

I would like to also make an appeal to readers, **if anyone wants to translate this book in their native language, they can do it.**

Actually if you see, the only purpose of creating this book is to consolidate the forts in India and to locate the forts. In the year 2007, our mentor the Late Shri. Pramod Mande in the book "*Gad Kille Maharashtra*" (Forts and Fortresses of Maharashtra) had initially included pictures of 391 forts of Maharashtra, their maps and superficial information on them. A consolidated book on Forts of Maharashtra was done by Mande Sir for the first time. The intention of this book was not to cover the detailed information on forts, provide travelogues for tourists or provide information about the structures present at those places. The only objective of this book "*Gad Kille Maharashtra*" is to create a book incorporating all the forts in Maharashtra. At that time too, questions regarding who will buy this huge, expensive book of colored photographs? And regardless of the questions being asked about it, Mande Sir completed this book. The students studying forts benefited greatly from this book. After this, many fort lovers from Maharashtra with the help of this book ("*Gad Kille Maharashtra*") undertook their fort expeditions while fort scholars wrote various books and completed them.

Similarly, the structure and nature of this book too, has been retained. And I am sure that the readers will welcome this book (Forts and Palaces in India) and fort lovers will undertake various expeditions to different forts while fort scholars will write various books on forts.

*** What is Latitude, Longitude, Altitude? -**

In the earlier texts giving information on tourism, or history, or culture, the location of places was not given by the coordinates. At most, their maps, or how to get there, their distance and direction was given. The

locations of all the forts are given by coordinates in this book. Hence, I think it is important to provide information on this newly added modern matter.

GPS stands for Global Positioning System; a system used for worldwide navigation and surveying. It is commonly used for pinpointing one's exact location anywhere on the Earth's surface and obtaining the current time at a specific location.

For any travel, the Latitude, Longitude, and the height of the place you are travelling to above sea level (Altitude) are very important. Only if these three things are known can any information of any place in the world be extracted and that place be accessed. Based on these three facts only, location of any place in the world from the map can be ascertained. In fact, without knowing these three things, traveling becomes difficult.

In ancient times rivers, planets - stars, trees, etc. were taken into account for deciding the way. Over time, however, this got changed drastically. One story is told in the Ramayana, As Shriram is returning from the exile, he finds many changes have taken place in the forest. He finds that many old trees have disappeared and new shrubs and trees are growing there. Then Laxman asks Shriram, "how do we find our way now?" On that, Ram says, "The life of the trees is short, however, the hills are immovable, so they are our guide."

At present, the hills have not remained unaltered, but have been flattened under the name of development. Later the compass was invented, paper maps were made, and many made their way using these maps for many years. Different types of maps such as wall maps, Political maps, Physical maps, Topographic maps, Geologic maps, Zip code maps, Road maps, Weather maps, Astronomical maps, Marine navigation or Nautical maps, Relief maps, Resource maps, Wall maps, Cadastral maps, Thematic maps, Atlas maps have been created. The art of making maps, Cartography, has begun to develop in a big way.

Many maps are drawn to a scale expressed as a ratio, such as 1: 10,000, which means that the measurement of 1 unit on the map corresponds to 10,000 of that same unit on the ground.

Now that maps are becoming digital, you can use them through various websites and mobile apps. Of these, Google Maps is the latest version of Maps used worldwide. Using the same, we can reach anywhere in the world in a moment (if not actually, via mobile) this has to be called a miracle of technology. Most travelers now use these digital tools only.

Now what is Latitude, Longitude, Altitude? Let us briefly look at it.

Famous French mathematician **René Descartes** is known as the originator of the wonderful idea of Coordinator Geometry. Mathematicians are lazy people and in that state itself they think of different ideas. While in such a sluggish state, he saw a fly in his room, sometimes that fly would come near him and irritate him, and at other times go to other parts of the room. Seeing the fly, it almost became a hobby for him to estimate its location in the room. He began to calculate the location of the fly from the right wall and the base of the floor at right angle to it. And from this, the idea of Coordinate Geometry was invented. And the location of any place in the world was determined. The place **Greenwich** (South East London, England) is considered as Greenwich Meridian (0° longitude). From there, the earth is divided into 180 longitudes to the east and 180 longitudes to the west. Mumbai city is 73 degrees east of Greenwich. Therefore, the longitude of Mumbai is recorded as '73 E'.

These distances are not given in kilometers or miles but given in degrees only. Locations on land within short distances are given in kilometers or miles. However, since the earth is spherical, the longitudes at the south end of the earth (south pole) and the north end of the earth (north pole) come together. Latitudes and longitudes, like angles, are expressed in terms of degrees. Degrees are a way to measure angles. They tell us how much of a full rotation (a circle, in essence) the angle makes up. Longitude and latitude are expressed in this way because the Earth is a sphere. Any line drawn around the Earth, then, is a circle. The longitude and latitude essentially tell us the angle between the center of the Earth and a given spot on the globe. Imagine that

we have a spot that is the exact center of the Earth. We then draw a line from it to the Equator. Now we draw a line from the center of the Earth to another point somewhere between the Equator and a pole (north or south). This gives us an angle. The latitude is expressed as the measure (in degrees) of this angle. The same thing can be done for longitude, though in this case, we would draw a line from the center of the Earth to the Prime Meridian (Greenwich) and then another from the center of the Earth to some other spot east or west of the Prime Meridian (Greenwich). This would give us our angle.

Every single point on the surface of earth can be specified by the latitude and longitude coordinates. Therefore, by using latitude and longitude we can specify virtually any point on earth.

The “**Longitude**” is a geographic coordinate that specifies the east–west position of a point on the Earth's surface, or the surface of a celestial body. It is an angular measurement, usually expressed in degrees and denoted by the Greek letter lambda (λ). Meridians (lines running from pole to pole) connect points with the same longitude. By convention, one of these, the Prime Meridian, which passes through the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, England, was allocated the position of 0° longitude. The longitude of other places is measured as the angle east or west from the Prime Meridian, ranging from 0° at the Prime Meridian to $+180^\circ$ eastward and -180° westward. Specifically, it is the angle between a plane through the Prime Meridian and a plane through both poles and the location in question. (This forms a right-handed coordinate system with the z-axis (right hand thumb) pointing from the Earth's center toward the North Pole and the x-axis (right hand index finger) extending from the Earth's center through the Equator at the Prime Meridian.)

The “**Latitude**” is a geographic coordinate that specifies the north-south position of a point on the Earth's surface. Latitude is an angle (defined below) which ranges from 0° at the Equator to 90° (North or South) at the poles. Lines of constant latitude, or parallels, run east-west as circles parallel to the equator. The Equator divides the globe into Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

The combination of these two components specifies the position of any location on the surface of Earth, without consideration of altitude or depth. The grid formed by lines of latitude and longitude is known as a 'graticule'.

The earth can be divided into two parts - from the center of the earth to the south (i.e. South Pole) and to the North (i.e. North Pole). The line that passes through this center of the earth is called the equator line. And its constituting the parallel of latitude 0° . And the part to the north or south of this line is divided from 0 to 90 degrees. The country of India is in the northern hemisphere and is located from 8.4° N to 37.6° N latitude.

Longitude means "X", Latitude means "Y" and Altitude means "Z".

Altitude usually means height or depth. It is measured from sea level. As per property of water to be at same levels, the level of all oceans of the world is the same. Therefore, the altitude of the sea level is considered zero. And is known as mean sea level (MSL). There are also some terrains on this earth that are below the sea level, i.e. the Z coordinate Altitude is - (Negative). The height of sea level is -2 m. or -7 ft. negative in Kuttanad (a region covering the Alappuzha, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta Districts in the state of Kerala). Dead Sea (is a salt lake bordered by Jordan to the east and Israel and the West Bank to the west) has an altitude of -430 m., i.e. -1,411 ft. from the sea level. And this part is considered the lowest from the sea level in the world. This is a little interesting part of the geographical study.

The latitude and longitude of the lines are further divided and expressed in one of the three common formats:

(1) Degrees, minutes, and seconds (DMS) - The space between each line of latitude or longitude representing 1° is divided into 60 minutes, and each minute is divided into 60 seconds. An example of this format is: $18^\circ 14'06.1''$ N $73^\circ 26'47.1''$ E.

The line of latitude is read as 18 degrees (18°), 14 minutes (14'), 6.1 seconds (6.1") north. The line of longitude is read as 73 degrees (73°), 26 minutes (26'), 47.1 seconds (47.1") east.

This is the most widely used format. The coordinates are taken in the same format in this book.

° means degree

' means minute

" means second

1 minute is equal to 60 seconds. 1 degree is equal to 1 hour, that is equal to 60 minutes or 3600 seconds.

(2) Degrees and decimal minutes (DMM) -

The space between each line of latitude or longitude representing 1° is divided into 60 minutes, and each minute is further divided and expressed as decimals. An example of this format is: 18 14.2028, 73 26.4718

(3) Decimal degrees (DD) - The space between each line of latitude or longitude representing 1° is divided and expressed as decimals. An example of this format is: 18.235027, 73.446388

But now, how can we type the co-ordinates in DMS format in our computer or mobile? Let us understand the same. While everyone will be able to type the numbers in this DMS format, let us see how we can type the symbols in this, like ° means degree, ' means minute and " means second –

At first °(**degree**) symbol :-

Computer : Hold down the Alt key, and on the numeric keypad on the right of the keyboard, type 0176 or 248.

Mac : Press Option Shift 8.

iOS : From the iOS keyboard on your iPhone or iPad. First hit the “123” button to see the numerical keypad. Now you can access the degree sign by tapping and holding the 0 (zero) key.

Android : Switch to the numbers and symbols keyboard. The degree symbol should appear on one of the pages.

Additionally, in Word and few other softwares symbol °(degree) symbol is given directly. That can be typed directly.

' means minute and " means second :-

Of this, (') symbol is identified as prime symbol. This (') symbol is commonly used to represent feet (ft) and minutes or arcminutes (arcmin). However, for convenience, a (') (single quote mark) is commonly used.

Similarly, (") symbol, is identified as double prime symbol. And this (") symbol represents inches (in) and second or arcseconds (arcsec). However, for convenience, a (") (double quotation mark) is commonly used.

We have now learned about the 3 coordinates. We have also seen that any location on the earth can be determined by these 3 coordinates. Now, readers may be wondering why a text on forts contains cumbersome information on these geographical facts. The rulers of India built various forts here, by looking at the geographical position. Otherwise, why would they have spent enormously for building forts? That is why, in this digital age, we have given longitude, latitude, altitude of the fort instead of maps drawn by hand or by using the computer. So if you want to go to these forts, you can reach the actual location of the fort only by using the 3 coordinates without needing elaborate maps. But what is Longitude, Latitude, Altitude? The intent of the above elaboration has been to give a little bit of introduction on the same to the readers.

* Gratitude towards people who contributed to the creation of the book: -

Many contributed towards creation of this book. I consider it my utmost duty to thank all of them. After the demise of Mande Sir, I began to work on this book with zeal. My involvement in business & family had to be reduced a bit. So, first of all, I thank my family members & Chetan's family members (my wife Mrs. Anjali, daughter Aditi, son Adiraj and Chetan's wife Mrs. Pooja and daughter Durva). If they had not given me space to complete this book, it would have been impossible to complete it. Due to the work on this book, I and Chetan had to give up many tasks while we were late in finishing some tasks. Hence, it is necessary to thank those customers as well.

Chetan Ghadge is basically an Electrical Engineer. He had to travel outstation for work. Hence it was difficult for me and him to meet in person. Both of us were quite busy throughout the day. So for a few months, we sat together every morning for 2 hours from 8 to 10. While at night he used to work at his home, while I worked in the office or at home. 3-4 months before the book was completed, Chetan got stuck in some family and job responsibilities and his work was delayed. So I had to take up his work too. I wanted to finish this book quickly under any circumstances. Because of this book, my work on navy was completely halted, so it was necessary for me to finish the work on this book as soon as possible. Hence, I was possessed. However, because of this, my business, family, and health largely suffered.

This book was written by me and Chetan. Yet one person's name has to be additionally included, that is, Shri. Rahul Shivaji Papal. He is also a disciple of *Bhau* (Mande Sir). His life changed radically because of *Bhau*. Rahul always offered all kind of support in the work of this book. So I feel the need to thank him at first.

After Pramod Mande's death, Ram Kutwal and Balasaheb Runwal stood firmly behind me. They also participated in the process of book preparation from time to time. Goa's Sachin Madge provided a lot of information about Goa's forts. My colleagues Mansi Wadke, Kiran Khatal, Kunal Sable, promptly performed the book related work I assigned to them. Hence, this book could be completed quickly. Harshal Shelar, Shubham Nirmal edited the photos, and worked hard to make them look more beautiful and attractive. Some reference books were made available by Pratish Khedekar, Dipak Patekar, Aditya Sabne. My friend Manik Kale designed the layout of the book and after that I learned the software of Coral-Draw, Photoshop, Lightroom etc. and completed the work using the same. Mansi Wadke also contributed a lot to the endeavour. My wife Anjali, daughter Aditi, Chetan's wife Mrs. Pooja also assisted in the actual work of the book in various ways. Manjiri Ambike helped translate the some pages comprising my thoughts. A nice cover for this book was created by Umesh Godse. Sandip Remje, Samir Darekar, Amit Gogawale, Ashwini Hasabnis, Ashish Utpat, Vakil Jehangir, Manoj Kelkar (*Sahyadri* Books), Nilesh Pashte (Diamond Publication), Mohan Phadtare & Raju Shinde (Varad Arts), Prabhakar Marne (New Bharat Binder), Babubhai Patel (Radhika Enterprises), Anant Phatak, Suresh Jadhav, Vishal Gaikwad (Systemagic Printers Pvt. Ltd.), Mahesh Sakat etc. also contributed to this work. I am deeply indebted to them all.

Thanks also to all the old co-workers of Mande Sir, along with the trekkers who traveled with him on many forts without any complaints. Pune Ventures, *Vaḍavāṇal Pratiṣṭhān*, Lokseva Group, *Jhūṃjār śiledār sevā samitī*, *Shivjayanti Utsav Samiti* Osmanabad, *Gaḍ Kille sevā samitī*, Shivaji Trail, *Sahyādrī Pratiṣṭhāna*, *Sanskṛuti Sanvardhan Sastha*, *Gadvat*, *Sagarmatha*, and Hon. Deepak Paigude, Anandrao Shinde, Satish Waghmare etc. I am thankful for them and many such organizations and individuals. The names of many organizations and individuals can be written, but it is not possible to give them here without a considerable elaboration. I also thank the family of Mande Sir. I am thankful to all those who love Mande Sir, forts and palaces and the land of India.

- Aniket Ankush Yadav

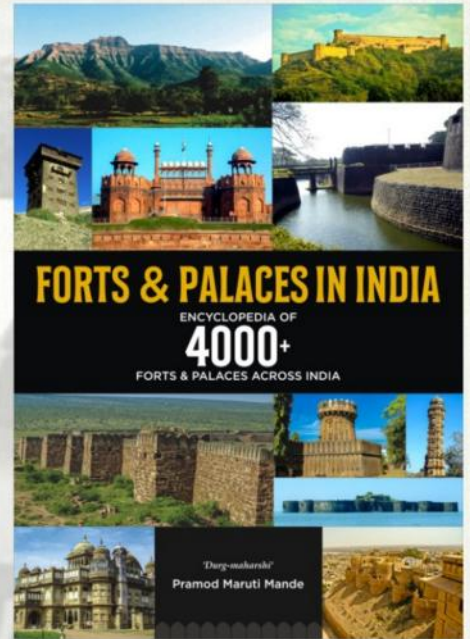
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